REMARKS

The last Office Action has been carefully considered.

Claims 1-16 and 19-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dürr et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,644,846) in view of Pedrini (U.S. Pat. No. 6,273,799).

Claims 1-16, 19-21, and 24-27 are pending in the application, with Claims 1, 13-14, and 21 being independent claims, and Claims 17-18 and 22-23 being canceled.

Claims 1, 13-14, and 21 are amended. No new subject matter is presented.

Regarding the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the Examiner states that Dürr et al. in view of Pedrini renders the claim obvious. Dürr et al. discloses an eccentric transmission (Abstract; Fig. 1), comprising an imbalance compensation element 13 (col. 3 lines 23-25; Fig. 1); an eccentric element 9 coupled to a ball bearing 15 (col. 3 lines 19-22 and 48-54; Fig. 1); and an armature shaft 11 having a rotation axis (col. 3 lines 19-22; Fig. 1).

The imbalance compensation element 13 and the eccentric element 9 of Dürr et al. are moving up and down (col. 3 lines 23-25 and 55-64), i.e., moving in a translation. In contrast, the imbalance compensation element 10a-10e and the eccentric element 12a-12e of the present application move in a rotation (specification page 5 lines 6-18; FIG. 2), which structurally differs from the translation in Dürr et al.

Further, Dürr et al. hints nowhere a center of mass of a total system comprising the eccentric element 9 and the ball bearing 15 lies on the rotation axis of the armature shaft 11. By contrast, the present application discloses an

eccentric transmission with a structure wherein a center of mass of a total system comprising the eccentric element 12a and the ball bearing 34a lies on the rotation axis 24a of the armature shaft 14a (specification page 6 lines 2-5; Fig. 2).

Dürr et al. fails to disclose at least the limitation of *a center of mass of a total system comprising the eccentric element and the ball bearing lies on the rotation axis* taught by Amended Claim 1.

Pedrini discloses an eccentric transmission comprising an eccentric element 18 coupled to a ball bearing 17; and an armature shaft 22 having a rotation axis A (col. 2 line 66 through col. 3 line 45; Fig. 1).

In Pedrini, the abrasive grinding element 1 is fixed to a segment-holder arm 2, which is connected to an oscillating radial shaft 3. The oscillating motion of the radial shaft 3 is determined by pin 4 of cylinder 9 that is accommodated to slide along radial grooves 8 of ring 7. The ring 7 is eccentrically driven with respect to shaft 22 of the polishing head. Therefore, a rotational movement of ring 7 is converted into an oscillating translational movement of the radial shaft 3 of the polishing head (col. 2, line 66 to col. 3 line 10). Pedrini lacks the feature claimed in Claim 1 as *the eccentric element converts in an operation mode a revolving rotary motion of the armature shaft into an oscillating rotary motion of the drive shaft.*

Pedrini neither hints the feature of the present application as a center of mass for a system of the eccentric element 18 and the ball bearing 17 lies on the axis A . Pedrini, as well as Dürr et al., fails to disclose at least the limitation of *a center of mass of a total system comprising the eccentric element and the ball bearing lies on the rotation axis* taught by Amended Claim 1, and thus fails to cure the defects of Dürr et al.

Clearly, Amended Claim 1 structurally differs from Dürr et al., Pedrini, or the combination thereof.

Regarding the rejection of Claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the above rationale for Amended Claim 1 also similarly applies to Amended Claim 13 with respect to Dürr et al., Pedrini, or the combination thereof.

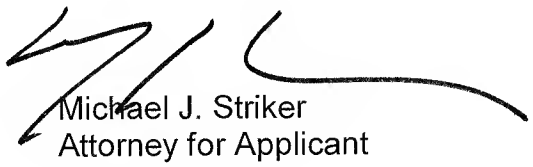
Regarding the rejection of Claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the above rationale for Amended Claim 1 also similarly applies to Amended Claim 14 with respect to Dürr et al., Pedrini, or the combination thereof.

Regarding the rejection of Claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the above rationale for Amended Claim 1 also similarly applies to Amended Claim 21 with respect to Dürr et al., Pedrini, or the combination thereof.

In view of the preceding amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims, namely, Claims 1-16, 19-21, and 24-27, are in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance; he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,



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